Fishery Data Series No. 98-22

Stock Assessment and Biological Characteristics of Burbot in Fielding Lake During 1997

by

James F. Parker

September 1998

Alaska Department of Fish and Game **Division of Sport Fish**

Symbols and Abbreviations

The following symbols and abbreviations, and others approved for the Système International d'Unités (SI), are used in Division of Sport Fish Fishery Manuscripts, Fishery Data Series Reports, Fishery Management Reports, and Special Publications without definition. All others must be defined in the text at first mention, as well as in the titles or footnotes of tables and in figures or figure captions.

Weights and measures (metric)

centimeter	cm
deciliter	dL
gram	g
hectare	ha
kilogram	kg
kilometer	km
liter	L
meter	m
metric ton	mt
milliliter	ml
millimeter	mm

Weights and measures (English)

cubic feet per second	ft^3/s
foot	ft
gallon	gal
inch	in
mile	mi
ounce	oz
pound	lb
quart	qt
yard	yd

Spell out acre and ton.

Time and temperature

day	d
degrees Celsius	°C
degrees Fahrenheit	°F
hour (spell out for 24-hour clock)	h
minute	min
second	s

Spell out year, month, and week.

Physics and chemistry

all atomic symbols	
alternating current	AC
ampere	A
calorie	cal
direct current	DC
hertz	Hz
horsepower	hp
hydrogen ion activity	pH
parts per million	ppm
parts per thousand	ppt, ‰
volts	V
watts	W

General

All commonly accepted abbreviations.	e.g., Mr., Mrs., a.m., p.m., etc.
All commonly accepted professional titles.	e.g., Dr., Ph.D., R.N., etc.
and	&
at	@
Compass directions:	
east	E
north	N
south	S
west	W
Copyright	©
Corporate suffixes:	
Company	Co.
Corporation	Corp.
Incorporated	Inc.
Limited	Ltd.
et alii (and other people)	et al.
et cetera (and so forth)	etc.
exempli gratia (for example)	e.g.,
id est (that is)	i.e.,
latitude or longitude	lat. or long.
monetary symbols (U.S.)	$, ¢
months (tables and figures): first three letters	Jan,...,Dec
number (before a number)	# (e.g., #10)
pounds (after a number)	# (e.g., 10#)
registered trademark	®
trademark	™
United States (adjective)	U.S.
United States of America (noun)	USA
U.S. state and District of Columbia abbreviations	use two-letter abbreviations (e.g., AK, DC)

Mathematics, statistics, fisheries

alternate hypothesis	H_A
base of natural logarithm	e
catch per unit effort	CPUE
coefficient of variation	CV
common test statistics	F, t, χ^2, etc.
confidence interval	C.I.
correlation coefficient	R (multiple)
correlation coefficient	r (simple)
covariance	cov
degree (angular or temperature)	°
degrees of freedom	df
divided by	÷ or / (in equations)
equals	=
expected value	E
fork length	FL
greater than	>
greater than or equal to	≥
harvest per unit effort	HPUE
less than	<
less than or equal to	≤
logarithm (natural)	ln
logarithm (base 10)	log
logarithm (specify base)	$\log_2$, etc.
mideye-to-fork	MEF
minute (angular)	'
multiplied by	x
not significant	NS
null hypothesis	H_O
percent	%
probability	P
probability of a type I error (rejection of the null hypothesis when true)	α
probability of a type II error (acceptance of the null hypothesis when false)	β
second (angular)	"
standard deviation	SD
standard error	SE
standard length	SL
total length	TL
variance	Var

FISHERY DATA SERIES NO. 98-22

STOCK ASSESSMENT AND BIOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF BURBOT IN FIELDING LAKE DURING 1997

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ABSTRACT

Abundance and an index of abundance were estimated for a population of burbot *Lota lota* in Fielding Lake. Burbot were captured in baited hoop traps set in a systematic pattern across Fielding Lake. Sampling occurred during June of 1997. Estimated mean CPUE per 48-hour set of fully (450 millimeters total length and longer) and partially (300 to 449 millimeters total length) recruited burbot in Fielding Lake was 0.67 (SE = 0.08) and 0.36 (SE = 0.06), respectively. Estimated abundance of fully recruited burbot in 1996 was 402 (SE = 59), and estimated density of fully recruited burbot was 0.75 (SE = 0.11) fish per hectare. An estimated 42% (SE 7.2) fully recruited burbot survived from 1995 to 1996.

Key words: burbot, *Lota lota*, lakes, abundance, hoop traps, systematic design, mean length, catch-per-unit of effort, abundance estimates, survival rates, recruitment.

INTRODUCTION

Harvests of burbot *Lota lota* from interior Alaska lakes increased, on average, 30% annually from 1977 to 1983, with the largest harvest occurring during the years 1984 to 1986 (Howe et al. 1997). The lakes in the Glennallen area (south-central Alaska) have historically supported the largest component of this harvest. Harvest of burbot in the Tanana River drainage has been stable (Figure 1).

Burbot harvests have declined in lakes of interior Alaska since peak harvests in the mid-1980's. This decline in harvests can be attributed to decreasing abundance of burbot in lakes due to overfishing and more restrictive regulations governing sport fisheries. Emergency regulations adopted in 1987 and other regulations since have restricted bag and possession limits to two fish and eliminated the use of set lines as a legal method of sport fishing from the Upper-Copper/Upper Susitna management area, Fielding, T, and Harding lakes, and throughout the Tangle Lakes system. Regulations for other populations in the Tanana River drainage are a daily bag and possession limit of five burbot and a maximum of five hooks fished at any one time.

From 1981-1983 harvest of burbot averaged 330 per year in Fielding Lake (Mills 1982-1985, Figure 2) which initiated a cycle of high and low abundance, due to low recruitment (Figure 2). Abundance declined from 682 fully recruited burbot in 1990 to 322 fully recruited burbot in 1993 (Parker 1997). No reported harvest occurred in seven of the past 13 years and less than 75 in the remaining six years (Mill 1985-1994, Howe et al. 1995-1997, Figure 2). On May 26, 1994, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) issued an emergency order closing Fielding Lake to the taking of burbot until further notice.

In 1986, the Sport Fish Division of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game initiated a stock assessment program for burbot populations in the Upper Copper/Upper Susitna basin (Region II) and in the Tanana River drainage (Region III); Parker et al. 1987-1989, Parker 1993-1997, Lafferty et al. 1990-1992, Lafferty and Bernard 1993, Taube et al. 1994-1995. This document is the twelfth report of the findings from this research in Region III. The objectives of the program in 1997 are as follows:

1. to estimate the abundance in 1996 and survival rate from 1995 to 1996 for burbot greater than 449 mm total length (TL) in Fielding Lake; and,
2. to index abundance of burbot greater than 449 mm TL in Fielding Lake in 1997 with mean catch-per-unit effort (CPUE).

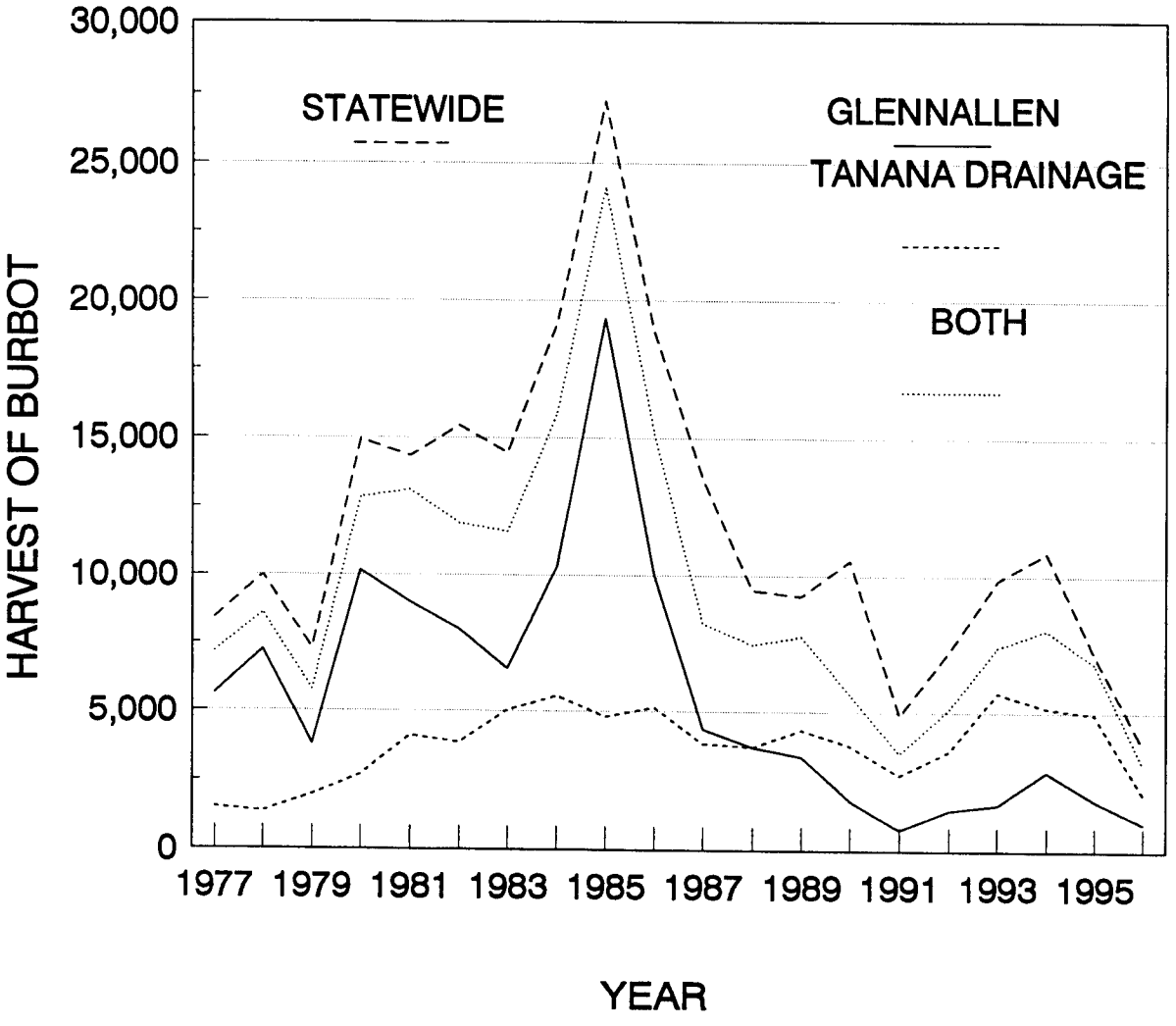

Figure 1.-Harvests in Alaskan burbot fisheries, 1977-1996 (Mills 1977-1994, Howe et al. 1995-1997).

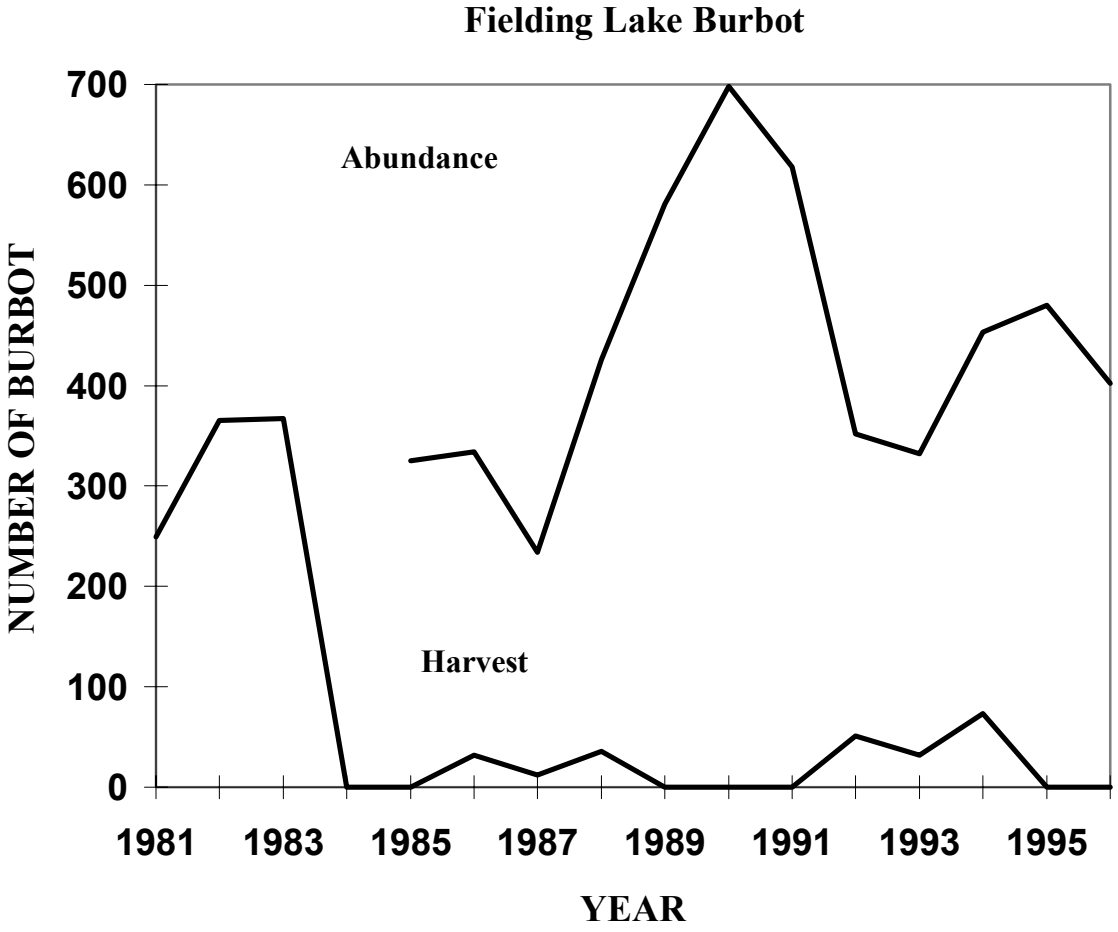

Figure 2.-Fielding Lake burbot harvest and abundance, 1981-1996.

A popular sport fishery was directed at Fielding Lake burbot stocks. Fielding Lake (63°10' N, 145° 42' W) is geographically isolated from other lakes by a lengthy river and is accessible by road via the Richardson Highway (Figure 3). Fielding Lake has a surface area is 538 ha, a maximum depth of 24 m and an elevation of 906 m. The lake is fed by three inlet streams and is drained by one outlet stream which is located on the north end of the lake. The lake begins to freeze by mid-October and breakup occurs from June 15 to July 1. A campground and boat launch facilities are located near the lakes' outlet, and several recreational cabins are located along the south shore. In addition to burbot, Fielding Lake contains Arctic grayling *Thymallus arcticus*, lake trout *Salvelinus namaycush*, and round whitefish *Prosopium cylindraceum*.

METHODS

GEAR DESCRIPTION

Burbot were captured in hoop traps 3.05 m in length with seven 6.35 mm steel hoops (Figure 4). Hoop diameters tapered from 0.61 m at the entrance to 0.46 m at the cod end. Each trap was double throated (tied to the first and third hoop) with throats narrowing to an opening 10 cm in diameter. All netting material was knotted nylon 25 mm bar meshes, held together with No. 15 cotton twine, and treated with an asphaltic compound. Each trap was stretched with two sections of 12 mm galvanized steel conduit that was attached by snap clips to the end hoops of the trap. A numbered buoy was attached to the cod end of the trap with a polypropylene rope. Each trap was baited with Pacific herring *Clupea harengus pallasi* cut into chunks and placed in a 500 ml perforated plastic, screw-top container. Bait containers were placed unattached in the cod end of the hoop trap. Each hoop trap was soaked for approximately 48 hours (hereafter referred to as a set) to maximize the catch of burbot (Bernard et al. 1991).

STUDY DESIGN

Mean CPUE was estimated with a two-stage, systematic survey of 300 sets from June 19-25. First, an overlay with parallel lines was placed across a map of Fielding Lake at a randomly chosen position but with the lines in the overlay perpendicular to the long axis of the lake. Distances between adjacent lines[1] in the overlay represented 125 m. Each parallel line had tick marks that represented a distance of 125 m. Next, the desired number of sets was compared with the tick marks that were over the water on the map; parallel lines were randomly excluded until the tick marks and the desired number of sets were similar. Traps were set in transects corresponding to the position of each remaining parallel line. However, the location of the first set along each transect was randomly chosen, and every subsequent set was along that transect at 125 m from the last set. The desired number of sets for each survey in mark-recapture experiment was estimated by dividing an a *priori* estimate of mean CPUE into sample size in numbers of burbot needed for the associated mark-recapture experiment. Sample size for the mark-recapture experiment is based on a previous abundance estimate. The desired number of sets to estimate mean CPUE as an index of abundance was calculated with procedures in Cochran (1977) for determining sample size to estimate the mean of a continuous variable.

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[1] The distance between traps of 125 m was chosen to eliminate gear competition. The effective fishing area of a baited trap was estimated at 0.45 ha by dividing the average CPUE of burbot caught per 48-hour set in 1985 in Fielding Lake by the density of burbot per ha from the mark-recapture experiment (Pearse and Conrad 1986). This estimated fishing area was arbitrarily increased to 1.25 ha to ensure elimination of gear competition; this area corresponds to traps set at a distance of 125 m.

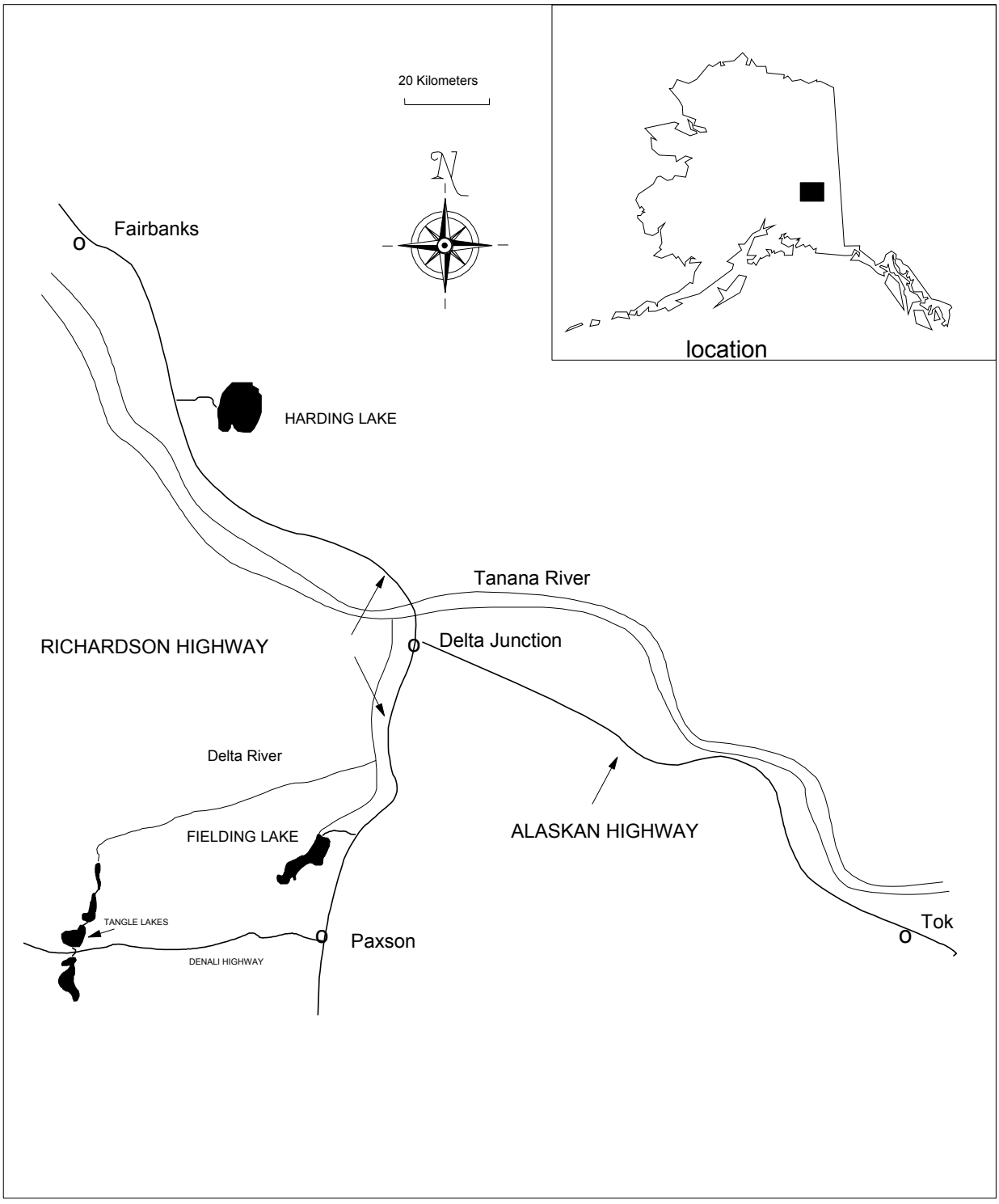

Figure 3.-Location of Fielding Lake in the Tanana River drainage.

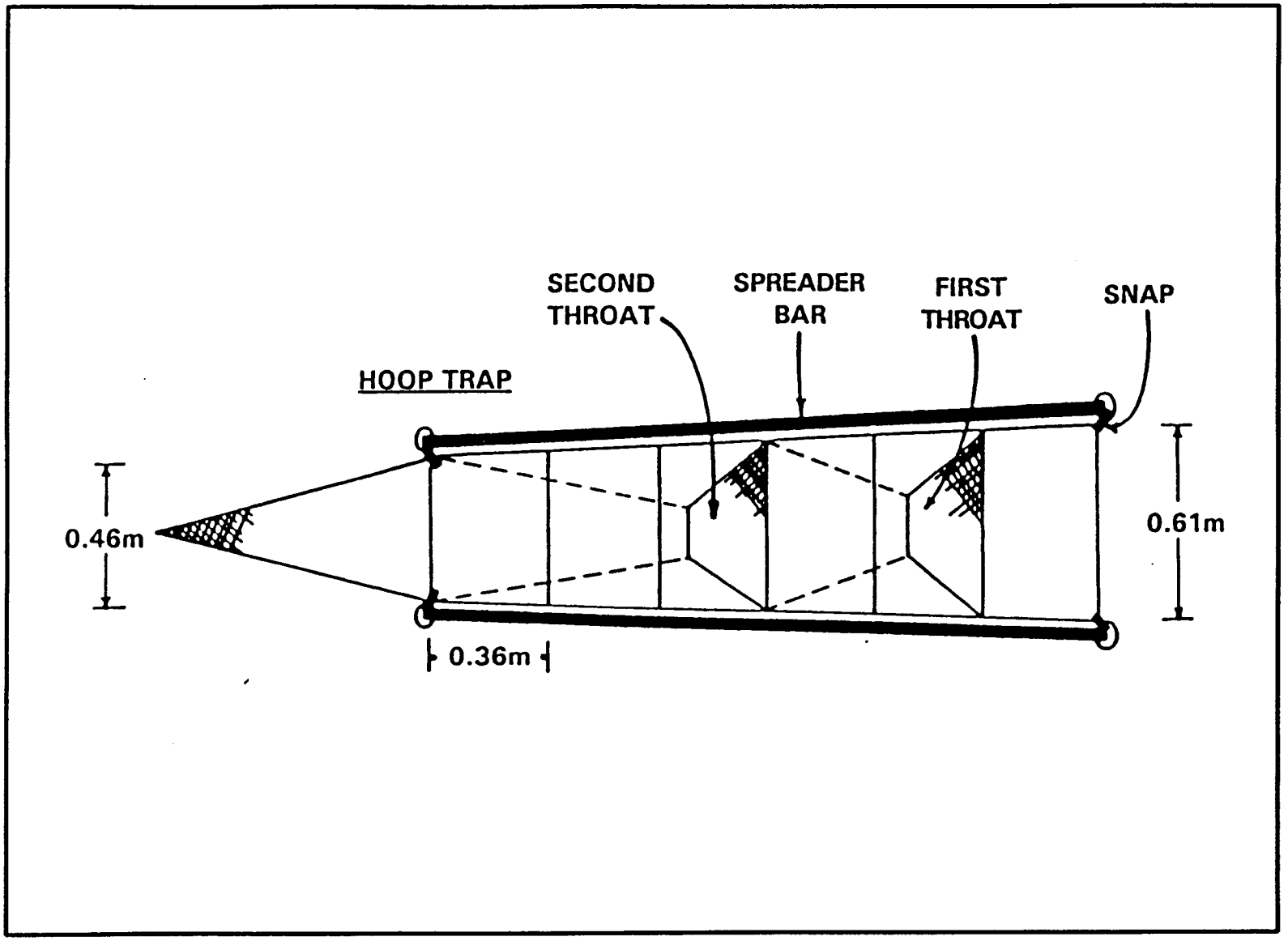

Figure 4.-Schematic drawing of hoop trap used to catch burbot during 1997.

Desired sample sizes for both mean CPUE and abundance were calculated, and the larger number was used.

Traps were immersed and retrieved during daylight hours beginning on one end of the lake and progressing to the other end. A single crew of three (one person piloted the boat and recorded data while the other two handled traps and measured and tagged captured burbot) immersed and retrieved traps simultaneously. The crew immersed and retrieved 60 traps in an 8-hour work day. Every new set received fresh bait, and old bait was discarded on shore.

Captured fish from each trap were placed into a plastic tank during sampling. Each burbot was measured and those greater than 300 mm TL were doubly marked. Burbot were tagged with an individually numbered Floy tag inserted in the musculature beneath the dorsal fin. Throughout the mark-recapture experiments, tags were used in serial order to allow easy recognition of specific locations and sampling events. The second mark, which was used to evaluate loss of Floy tags, was a left ventral finclip. Any burbot that was stressed from deep-water removal (usually an expanded gas bladder) or had trap-inflicted injuries was killed and dissected. Otoliths were removed, and the sex and maturity of these burbot were recorded. Ages were estimated from whole, polished otoliths by counting annuli according to the method of Beamish and McFarlane (1987) and Chilton and Beamish (1982). Burbot in Fielding Lake were separated into two groups for analysis: those fully recruited to the hoop traps ($\geq$ 450 mm TL) and those partially recruited (< 450 mm TL). Bernard et al. (1991) showed that burbot recruited fully to the hoop trap gear between 450 and 500 mm TL in most populations. In Fielding Lake recaptures during this single event were considered captured only once to estimate abundance with the mark-recapture experiment, but were considered captured "k" times to estimate mean CPUE.

MEAN CPUE

Mean CPUE was estimated in Fielding Lake for fully ($\geq$ 450 mm TL) and partially (< 450 mm TL) recruited burbot following a two-stage sampling design with transects as first-stage units and sets along transects as second-stage units (Sukhatme et al. 1984). Although all transects had an equal probability of being included in a survey, they were of different sizes (lengths) depending upon the shape of the lake. Under these conditions, an unbiased estimate of mean CPUE is:

$$\overline{CPUE} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{m_i} \left[\sum_{i=1}^{m_i} x_i c_{ij} \right] \qquad (1)$$

where:

c_{ij} = catch of burbot from the jth set on the ith transect;

n = number of transects;

m_i = number of sets sampled on the ith transect;

x_i = $M_i / \overline{M}$; and

M_i = maximum possible sets on the ith transect.

$\overline{M}$ = mean of possible sets across all transects (Bernard et al. 1993).

Although the M_i and $\overline{M}$ are unknown, the m_i and $\overline{m}$ were used as substitutes because both M and m are directly related to the length of transects.

Thus $\hat{x}_i = m_i / \overline{m}$ was inserted for x_i. Because few burbot enter traps during daylight (Bernard et al. 1991), catches were not adjusted for the few hours deviation in soak times from the standard 48 hours for most sets. Although the distribution of burbot can be related to depth (Odell 1932; Kennedy 1940; Rawson 1951; Dryer 1966), estimate of mean CPUE was not post-stratified by depth because sampling effort was proportionally (or near proportionally) allocated across depths within the survey design. A two-stage, resampling procedure (Efron 1982, Rao and Wu 1988) was used to generate an empirical distribution of mean CPUE for each survey from which variance of mean CPUE and bias from using $\hat{x}$ were estimated (Bernard et al. 1993).

ABUNDANCE, SURVIVAL RATES, AND RECRUITMENT

Abundance, survival rates, and surviving recruitment of fully recruited burbot ($\geq$450 mm TL) were estimated using the mark-recapture histories of fish according to the models of Jolly (1965) and Seber (1965, 1982). The computer program Jolly (model A) as described in Pollock et al. (1985, 1990) was used to do the calculations. Mark-recapture histories for the population are listed in Appendices A1 and A2. In earlier years, two-event mark-recapture experiments based on closed populations were use to estimate abundance of burbot; both events were a few weeks apart. Data from these experiments were pooled to form the annual sampling events used in the multi-year mark-recapture experiment as recommended by Pollock (1982). Because mark-recapture experiments of this type do not produce estimates of abundance for the current year of sampling, mean CPUE was used to estimate abundance of burbot in 1994 using the relationship:

$$\hat{N} = A\overline{(CPUE)} \quad \hat{q}^{-1} \tag{2}$$

where A is the surface area the lake, and q is the catchability coefficient (the fraction of the population removed instantaneously with one unit of sampling effort). Estimates of q were obtained from previous sampling in Fielding Lake (see Lafferty and Bernard 1993; Parker 1994-1997). Because catchability of burbot in hoop traps is about 1.5 times higher just after lakes become ice-free than later in the summer (Bernard et al. 1993), only information from past sampling events that matched the scheduling with the sampling event in 1997 was used to estimate an average q.

RESULTS

Length distributions of fully recruited burbot in 1997 were not significantly different than in 1996 (Kolmogorov-Smirnov two-sample test, P = 0.183; Figure 5). The plot (Figure 5) shows a slight increase in burbot recruiting though out this size group over the previous year. The mean length of fully recruited burbot in 1996 was 549 mm TL (Parker 1997) and decreased slightly to 536 mm TL in 1997 (Table 1) confirming the presence of a few new recruits. Fully recruited burbot released in 1996 and recaptured in 1997 grew an average of 32 mm (n=69). Statistically the length distribution between 1996 and 1997 are the same, however, there were fewer fish

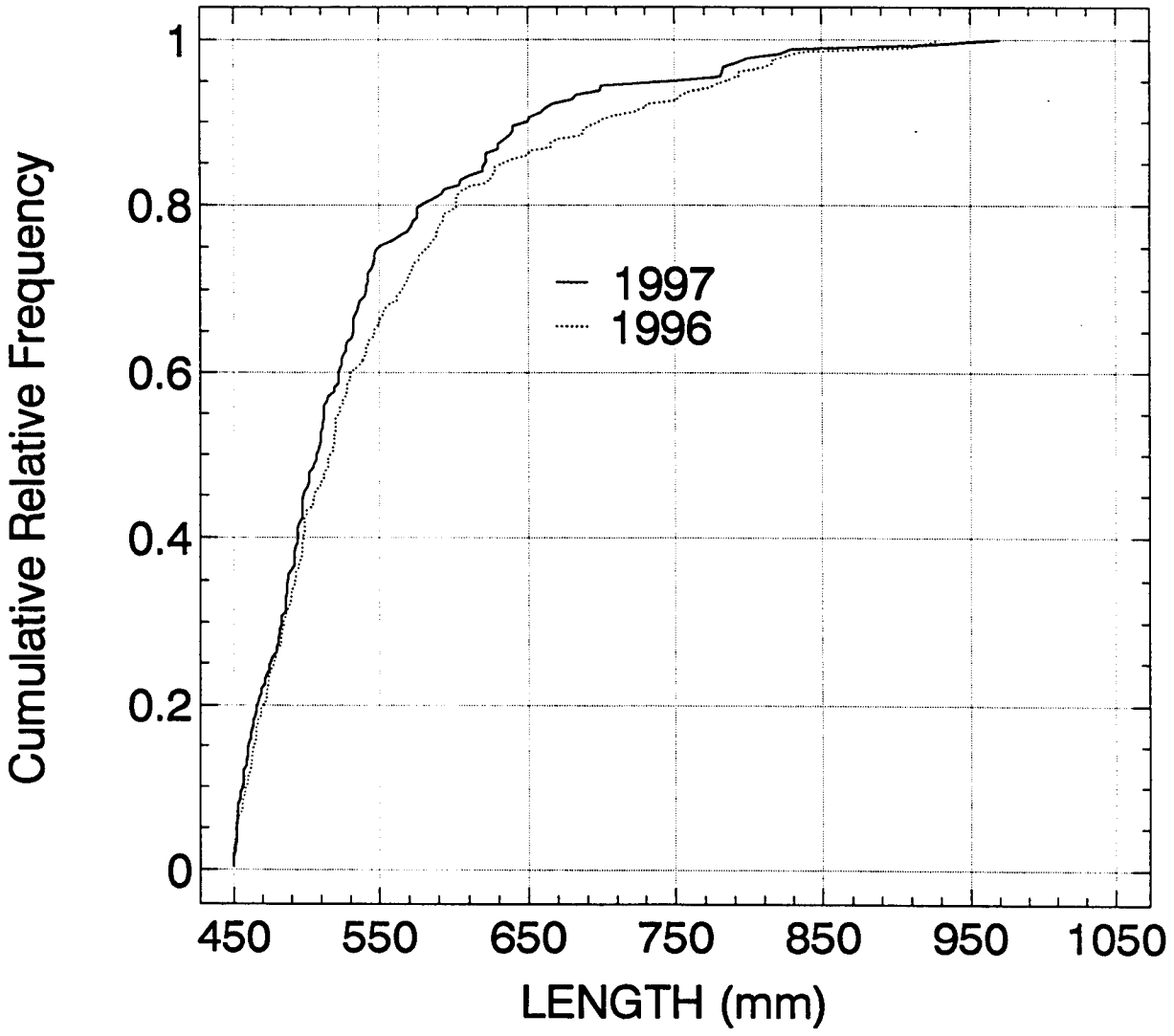

Figure 5.-Cumulative length frequency of burbot captured during 1996 and 1997.

Table 1.-Mean lengths (mm TL) of measured burbot during the 1997 sampling event.

Lake	Statistic	Recruitment to the gear[a] Partially	Fully	All
Fielding	Mean	395	536	484
	SE	4	7	6
	Samples	104	182	286

[a] Burbot partially recruited to the gear are < 450 mm TL and fully recruited burbot are ≥ 450 mm TL.

caught between 575 mm and 675 mm in 1997. In 1996, there was a more gradual descending right limb from 525 to 675 mm (Parker 1997). The mode of the distribution is at the length at full recruitment for the sampling gear (450 mm TL; Figure 6).

In 1997, estimated mean CPUE (bootstrapped) of fully and partially recruited burbot was 0.67 burbot and 0.36 burbot per set, respectively (Table 2). Estimated bias in mean CPUE for fully recruited burbot, as calculated through bootstrapping was negligible (< -0.1%). Estimated mean CPUE for fully recruited burbot declined annually from 0.71 in 1991 (Lafferty et al. 1992) to 0.32 in 1993 (Parker 1994). This trend reversed in 1994 increasing to 0.54 by 1995 (Parker 1996) and 0.67 in 1997 (Figure 7). The mean CPUE of partially recruited burbot increased from 0.42 in 1992 to 0.62 in 1993 (Figure 7) and remained stable in 1994 (0.54) and 1995 (0.61) but declined to 0.40 in 1996 and 0.36 in 1997. During sampling in 1997, sets were most numerous between 9-12 m with burbot being caught at all depths (Figure 8).

Estimated abundance of fully recruited burbot decreased from 480 fish in 1996 to 402 fish in 1997 (Table 3). The downward trend will likely continue, following the cyclic pattern observed over the past eleven years (Figure 9). Annual survival rate from 1994-1995 was estimated at 43%, and surviving recruitment was estimated at 200 (Table 4). Density of fully recruited burbot in 1996 was 0.75 fish per hectare (SE = 0.11). Rate of overwinter tag loss was 2% for fully recruited burbot. Throughout the mark-recapture experiment, there was no evidence of regenerated fins on any of the recaptured burbot with tags. Table 3 contains statistics on catchability coefficients that were used for the 1997 estimate of abundance. The estimate in 1996 using the catchability coefficient was 510 fully recruited burbot (Parker 1997), compared to 503 realized in 1997 (Table 4). Variability observed in the catchability coefficient is influenced by varying population abundance's over time. In 1997, 4 fish were killed incidental to sampling. Age, weight, and length information collected from these fish are found in the Appendix A3. Voluntary tag returns from sport anglers from other populations studied in past years are listed in Appendix A4. Finally, Appendix A5 provides a listing of the data archives.

DISCUSSION

Potential bias in the estimates of abundance, survival rate, and recruitment from the mark-recapture experiment was negligible. Two of the 76 fully recruited recaptured burbot, marked in 1996, lost their tags. Secondary marks allowed these recaptures to be identified to the marking event. No immigration or emigration has ever been observed from Fielding Lake. Sampling recommendations in Bernard et al. (1991) have been followed closely to avoid other potential bias in estimates mentioned above.

High fishing mortality prior to 1984 and subsequent poor recruitment resulted in a cycle of high and low abundances. Fish entered the fully recruited population in low numbers beginning in 1992 (Parker 1994). Exploitation of the population from 1992-1994 ranged from 10-17% even though harvests were low in comparison to harvests prior to 1984 (Parker 1997). Fishing for burbot was closed in May of 1994 to allow the population to recover (Parker 1996). No reported harvest has occurred since 1994 as a result of the closure.

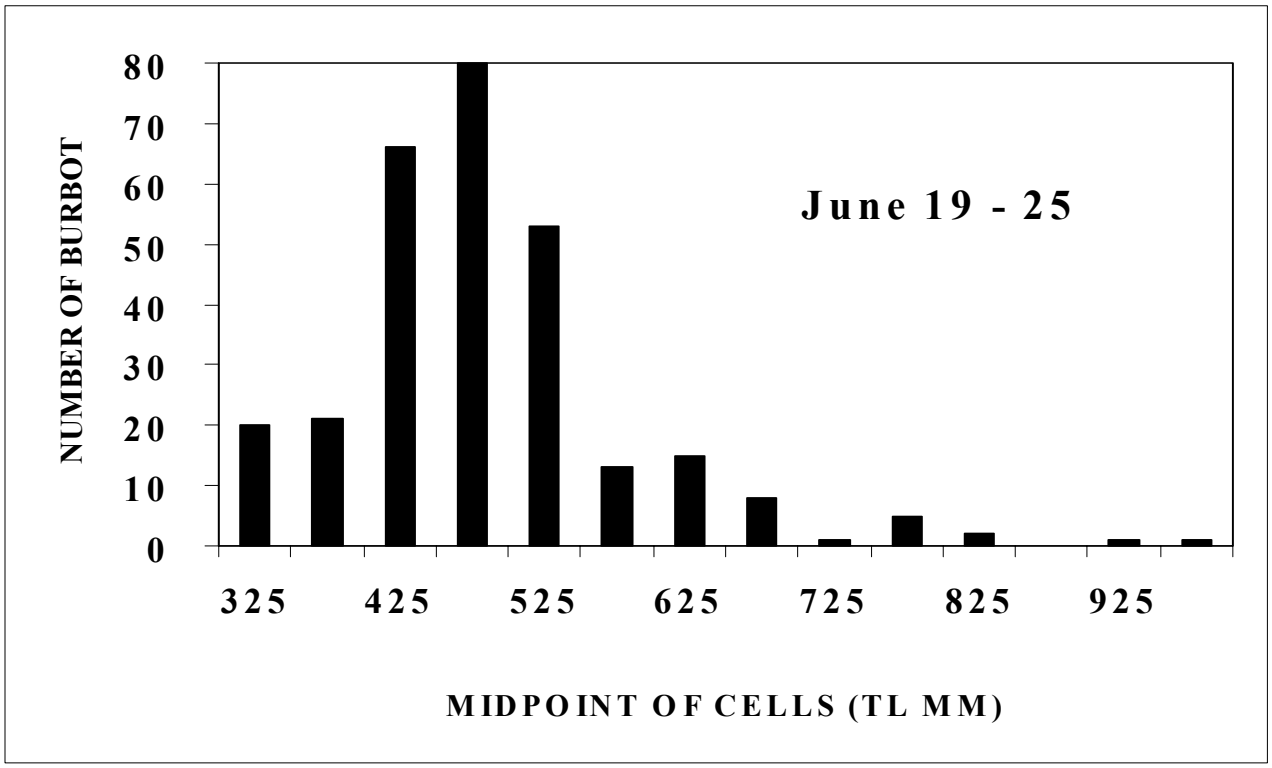

Figure 6.-Length-frequency histogram of burbot captured in 1997.

Table 2.-Estimated mean CPUE of fully recruited (≥ 450 mm TL) and partially recruited (< 450 mm TL) burbot from systematic sampling of the population in 1997.

Dates	Strata	Number of Sets and Transects		Mean CPUE Bootstrapped	Mean CPUE Arithmetic	%D	SE	CV
Full Recruits:								
6/19-25	All depths	299	43	0.67	0.67	-0.1	0.08	12.3
Partial Recruits:								
6/19-25	All depths	299	43	0.36	0.36	0.1	0.06	17.1

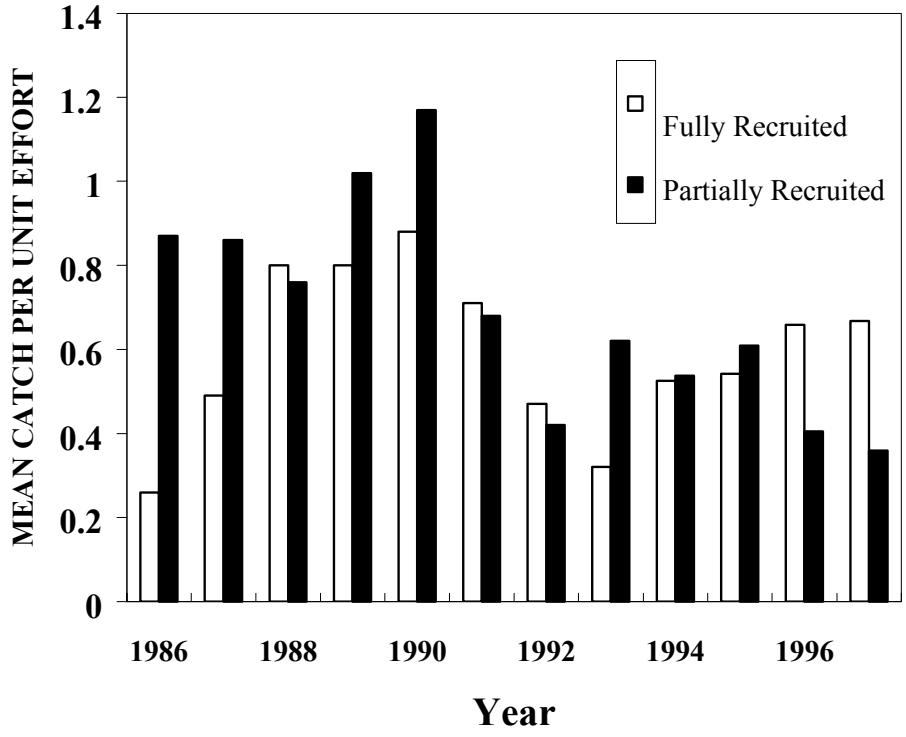

Figure 7.-Mean CPUE of fully recruited (≥ 450 mm TL) and partially recruited (< 450 mm TL) burbot captured during spring sampling events from 1986 - 1997.

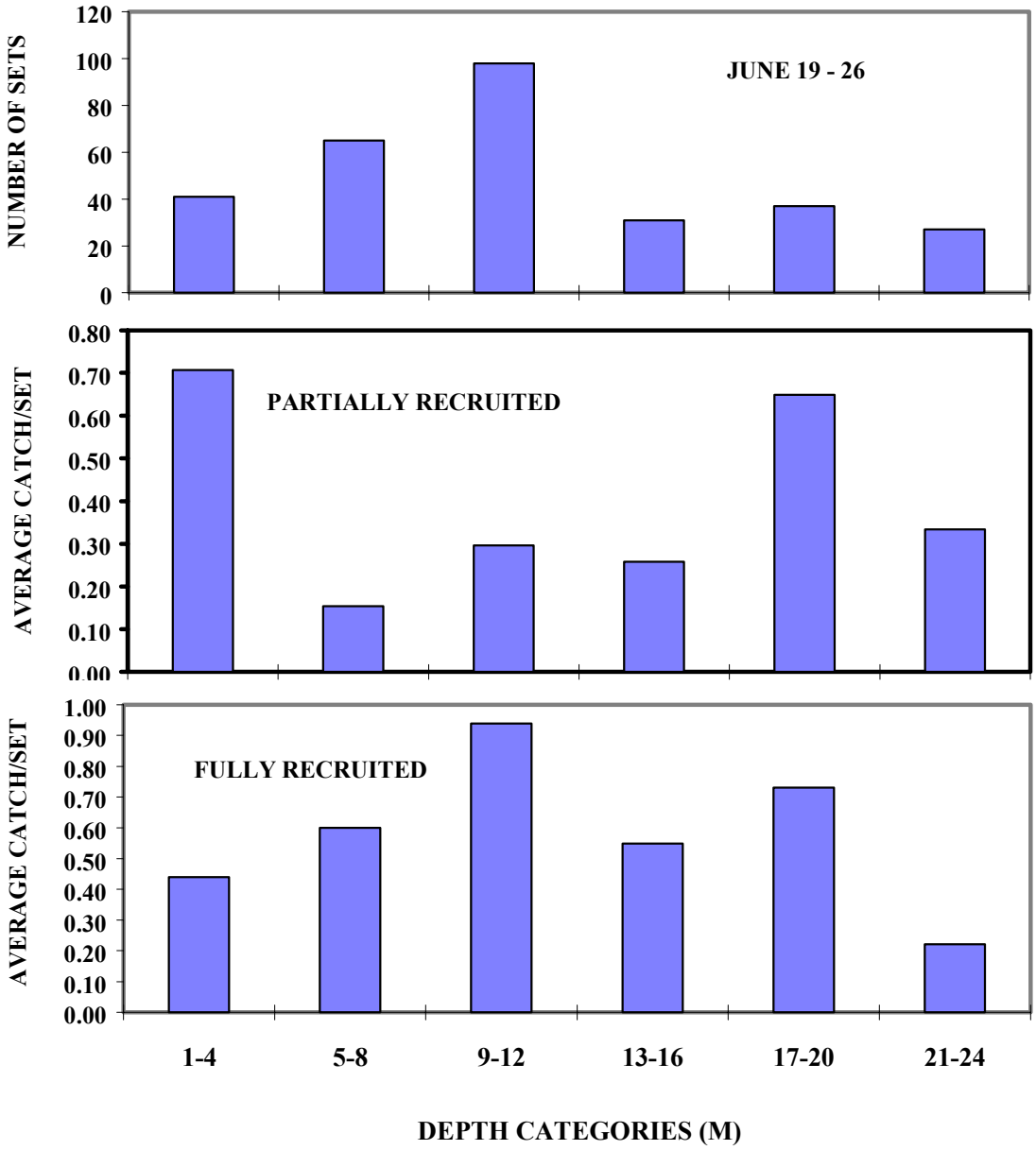

Figure 8.-Frequency of sets by depth and average catch of burbot by depth in 1997.

Table 3.-Spring catchability coefficients for fully recruited burbot (≥ 450 mm TL) from 1988 - 1996.

Lakes and Dates	Mean CPUE	Abundance[a]	Density	Catchability Coefficient[b]
Fielding Lake:				
6/29/88	0.81	426	0.79	1.03
6/26/89	0.81	581	1.08	0.75
6/16/90	0.88	698	1.30	0.68
6/24/91	0.71	618	1.15	0.62
6/27/92	0.46	352	0.65	0.71
6/23/93	0.32	332	0.62	0.54
6/22/94	0.52	453	0.84	0.62
6/20/95	0.54	480	0.89	0.61
6/22/96	0.67	402	0.75	0.88
Spring Average				0.71

[a] Jolly-Seber multi-year mark-recapture estimate.

[b] Mean CPUE multiplied by surface area (538 ha) divided by abundance.

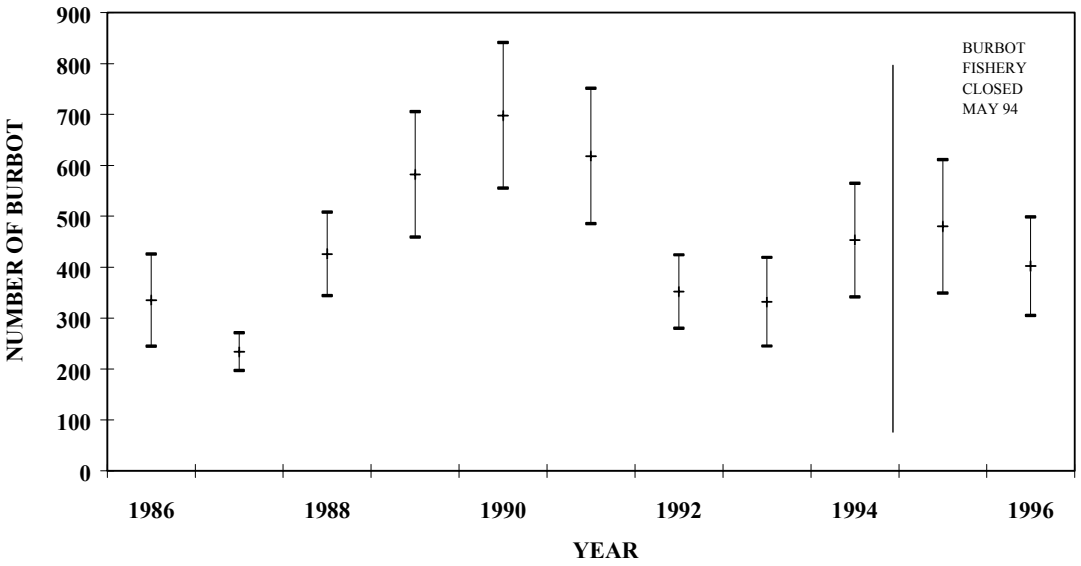

Figure 9.-Estimates of abundance (± 2 SE) of fully recruited burbot for Fielding Lake from 1986 - 1996.

Table 4.-Estimates of abundance, survival rate, and recruitment for fully recruited (≥ 450 mm TL) burbot.

Lake	Midway Date	Days Between Events	Abundance			Survival Rate %		Recruitment	
			Est.	(SE)	CV %	Est.	(SE)	Est.	(SE)
Fielding	7/14/84		N/A						
		403				64.9	13.7	N/A	
	8/21/85		325	83	25.5				
		355				54.7	7.0	170	72
	8/11/86		334	55	16.5				
		360				67.0	7.0	38	35
	8/06/87		234	23	9.8				
		343				89.8	8.1	236	43
	7/15/88		426	50	11.7				
		365				84.5	9.3	243	64
	7/15/89		581	75	12.9				
		367				72.6	8.4	279	73
	7/17/90		698	87	12.5				
		368				69.7	8.8	132	64
	7/20/91		618	81	13.1				
		335				49.7	6.7	45	33
	6/27/92		352	44	12.5				
		361				64.2	9.6	107	38
	6/23/93		332	53	16.0				
		361				75.3	11.8	202	53
	6/19/94		453	68	15.0				
		363				65.7	10.6	183	59
	6/17/95		480	80	16.7				
		370				42.9	7.2	200	46
	6/22/96		402	59	14.7				
		365							
	6/22/97		503						

The recent trend of increasing numbers of fully recruited burbot reversed and began to decline in 1996. Fluctuation in abundance is usually reflected in a drop in CPUE, however, CPUE in 1997 was nearly the same as in 1996. The peak of this latest cycle is less (480) than the last peak in 1990 (698). While current estimates of abundance, recruitment, and survival rates from the mark-recapture experiment will change as time passes (statistics will become more accurate as data accumulate), the mean CPUE in 1997 of partially recruited burbot was the lowest since 1992 (when abundance of full recruits was declining). It is hoped the cyclic pattern observed in the past ten years will flatten out in time.

Fielding and Harding lakes are the only two roadside lakes in the Tanana River drainage that are productive enough to support a burbot fishery. A small sustainable level of harvest (10%) can be allowed once the population in Fielding Lake increases to past abundance levels (700-900 burbot).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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LITERATURE CITED

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APPENDIX A

Appendix A1.-Mark-recapture histories of fully recruited[a] burbot by year (by sampling event in 1997).

Fielding Lake															
Date:	Year	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
	Beginning	7/20	7/16	7/28	7/21	6/29	6/26	6/16	6/22	6/24	6/20	6/16	6/14	6/19	6/19
	Ending	10/8	9/27	8/25	8/22	7/31	8/04	8/17	8/18	6/30	6/26	6/22	6/20	6/26	6/25
NUMBER OF FULLY RECRUITED BURBOT:															
Recaptured from Event 1		0	13	2	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Recaptured from Event 2			0	27	23	1	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Recaptured from Event 3				0	30	9	2	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Recaptured from Event 4					0	48	18	4	6	4	0	0	0	0	0
Recaptured from Event 5						0	38	16	7	7	2	0	2	1	2
Recaptured from Event 6							0	51	13	5	0	2	1	1	0
Recaptured from Event 7								0	52	18	3	6	2	0	0
Recaptured from Event 8									0	38	8	6	5	1	0
Recaptured from Event 9										0	29	16	5	2	0
Recaptured from Event 10											0	24	8	5	0
Recaptured from Event 11												0	31	18	3
Recaptured from Event 12													0	30	10
Recaptured from Event 13														0	53
Recaptured from Event 14															0
Captured with Tags		0	13	29	55	58	61	73	80	74	42	54	54	58	68
Captured without Tags		43	149	90	93	117	120	152	108	67	45	103	99	150	113
Captured		43	162	119	148	175	181	225	188	141	87	157	153	208	181
Released with Tags		43	138	76	126	149	177	223	187	140	87	156	145	199	178

[a] Fully recruited burbot are ≥450 mm TL.

Appendix A2.-Mark-recapture histories of partially recruited[a] burbot by year (by sampling event in 1997).

Fielding Lake															
Date:	Year	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
	Beginning	7/20	7/16	7/28	7/21	6/29	6/26	6/16	6/22	6/24	6/20	6/16	6/14	6/19	6/19
	Ending	10/8	9/27	8/25	8/22	7/31	8/04	8/17	8/18	6/30	6/26	6/20	6/20	6/26	6/25
NUMBER OF FULLY RECRUITED BURBOT:															
Recaptured from Event 1		0	19	6	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Recaptured from Event 2			0	50	23	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Recaptured from Event 3				0	29	13	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Recaptured from Event 4					0	28	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Recaptured from Event 5						0	31	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Recaptured from Event 6							0	38	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Recaptured from Event 7								0	24	2	4	0	0	0	0
Recaptured from Event 8									0	12	6	0	0	0	0
Recaptured from Event 9										0	13	7	0	0	0
Recaptured from Event 10											0	11	6	1	0
Recaptured from Event 11												0	9	2	0
Recaptured from Event 12													0	10	3
Recaptured from Event 13														0	7
Recaptured from Event 14															0
Captured with Tags		0	19	56	52	46	42	45	29	14	23	18	15	13	10
Captured without Tags		65	432	278	230	175	244	274	168	112	142	143	164	110	95
Captured		65	451	334	282	221	286	319	197	126	165	161	179	123	105
Released with Tags		65	404	233	163	152	279	308	194	121	158	160	170	117	104

[a] Partially recruited burbot are <450 mm TL.

Appendix A3.-Weights, lengths and estimated ages of burbot incidentally killed at Fielding Lake in 1997.

Date Killed	Tag Number	Sex	Age	Length (mm)	Weight (kg)	Maturity
Fielding:						
6/21/97	na	?	3	253	0.200	Immature
6/23/97	4391	F	6	552	1.25	Immature
6/23/97	4082	M	9	532	1.00	Mature
6/23/97	4123	F	7	467	0.71	Mature
6/23/97	4374	F	4	383	0.375	Immature

.

Appendix A4.-Voluntary returns of tags by sport anglers in 1997 from other populations studied in past years.

Lake	Date Tagged	Tag Number	Date Caught	Recapture Location
Harding Lake	9/25/91	72763	12/29/91	Harding Lake
George Lake	5/22/95	25288	3/14/97	George Lake
Jatahmund Lake	8/15/88	61183	3/24/97	Jatahmund Lake
George Lake	5/21/90	70167	3/8/97	George Lake
George Lake	6/1/87	31613	3/8/97	George Lake

Appendix A5.-Summary of data archives.

Location	Project Leader	Storage Software and version
Region III	J.F. Parker	Comma delimited
Delta Junction	907-895-4632	ASCII files Standard
		RTS Archive format [a]

	Data Map		
Lake	File Name	Data Format	Software
Fielding	U0130HAA.DTA	Hoopnet	RTS-ASCII
	FIEL97TD.DBF	Tag History	DBASE

Definitions of Data Formats:

Hoopnet: a mark-sense form developed by Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish-Research and Technical Services (RTS) for the recording of trap, catch, and tagging information.

Tag History: a Dbase file that contains lake specific historical tagging information by individual tags and recaptures by sampling events.

Specific codes and organization of columns for each data format are available on request from RTS.

[a] Alaska Department of Fish and Game - Sport Fish Division - Research and Technical Services (RTS).